1. A method of researching and analyzing information contained in a plurality of documents, wherein said documents belong to a first database and are organized according to a first set of fields for an electronic search and retrieval by a computer, the method comprising:

conducting an electronic search of said first database to retrieve at least one document;

developing a second set of fields;

reading said at least one document to retrieve information pertaining to said second set of fields;

entering said at least one document, values of said first set of fields for said at least one document, said second set of fields and said retrieved information pertaining to said second set of fields into a second database; and

analyzing said information contained in said second database.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said first database is searched based on said first set of fields.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said first database is searched based on keywords.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said first database is searched based on a Boolean phrase.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said first database is searched based on a "natural language" query.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said first database is a patent database, said documents are patents and said first set of fields are patent fields.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein said patent database is the United States Patent and Trademark Office patent database.

8. The method of claim 6 wherein said patent database is the European Patent Office patent database.

9. The method of claim 6 wherein said patent database is the Japanese Patent Office patent database.

10. The method of claim 6 wherein said patent database is an international patent database.

11. The method of claim 6 wherein said patent fields are selected from a group consisting of Patent Number, Title, Assignee Name and Location, Filing date, Date of patent, Application Number, Inventor(s) Name, U.S. Class, U.S. Subclass, International Class, International Subclass, Field of Search, Number of references cited, Number of claims, Number of independent claims, Abstract, Name of Primary Examiner, Name of secondary Examiner or Name of attorney, agent, firm.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein said documents are publications.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein said documents are books.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein said documents are newspapers.

15. The method of claim 1 wherein said documents are magazines.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein said second set of fields are user-defined fields and are developed from answers to questions contained in a first input form.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise a core competency of an invention.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise a technology of an invention.

19. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise an element of an invention.

20. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a business driver for an invention.

21. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a product of an invention.

22. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a field of an invention.

23. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a problem solved by an invention.

24. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise an intellectual property strategy for an invention.

25. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a priority of an invention.

26. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a capability for producing an invention.

27. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a level of novelty of an invention.

28. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a market size for an invention.

29. The method of claim 16 wherein said user defined fields comprise a maturity level of an invention.

30. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise a level of importance of an invention.

31. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise a patent strategy of an invention.

32. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise a business strategy of an invention.

33. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise an assessment of the ability to detect the use of an invention by anyone other than an owner of the invention.

34. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise an estimate of use of an invention by competitors.

35. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise an estimate of use of an invention by suppliers.

36. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise an estimate of use of an invention by customers.

37. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise an estimate of the alliance potential generated by an invention between an owner of the invention and others.

38. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise an estimate of technology transfer potential generated by an invention between an owner of the invention and others.

39. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise a level of prestige generated by an invention.

40. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise an estimate of licensing potential of an invention.

41. The method of claim 16 wherein said user-defined fields comprise an estimate of market potential of an invention.

42. The method of claim 1 wherein said second database comprises an Access™ type database.

43. The method of claim 1 wherein said analyzing of the information contained in said second database comprises:
    entering the information into a spreadsheet; and
    displaying said user-defined fields in graphs and tables.

44. The method of claim 1 wherein each said second set of fields is associated with a value and said analyzing comprises summation of said values for each field.

45. The method of claim 1 wherein more than one documents are retrieved.

46. The method of claim 45 further comprising developing a high level of abstraction view of said retrieved documents.

47. An apparatus for researching and analyzing information contained in a plurality of documents comprising:

a computer system including a monitor and a central processing unit (CPU), said computer system accessing an Internet website;

5   a first database contained within said Internet website and wherein said database contains a plurality of documents organized according to a first set of fields for an electronic search and retrieval by said computer system,

computer instructions for conducting an electronic search of said first database to retrieve at least one document;

10   computer instructions for developing a second set of fields;

computer instructions for entering into a second database said at least one document, values of said first set of fields for said at least one document, said second set of fields and information pertaining to said second set of fields extracted via reading from said at least one document; and

15   computer instructions for analyzing information contained in said second database.

48. The apparatus of claim 47 wherein said second database is contained within said computer system.

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